

Arizona's Response to the World Refugee Crisis



The Arizona Refugee Resettlement Program



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona

What does it mean to be a refugee?

What would you do right now if bombs were falling around you?

What would you do if people of your faith or ethnic group were being singled out, tortured, and slaughtered?



What does it mean to be a refugee?

If you had
15 minutes to
evacuate your
home...
what would
you take ?



If you became a refugee...

Where would you go?

Who would help you?

If you couldn't return home - would you hope that someone would help you?



When you are a refugee...



how long should it take to get that help?

19.5 million refugees worldwide



80% are women and children



70% live at least 10 years in camps



Conditions are slow to improve

Millions of refugees will never be able to return to their countries of origin and languish in make-shift camps for decades.



Traditional Resettlement Countries



Australia



New Zealand



Canada



Norway



Denmark



Sweden



Finland



Switzerland



Netherlands



United States

Durable Solutions

The United Nations identifies three durable solutions for refugees:

- Voluntary Repatriation to their Home Country
- Integration into their Country of First Asylum
- Resettlement to a Third Country

What percentage of the world's refugees are resettled to a third country?



Less than 1%

Less than one percent of the world's refugees ever have the opportunity to find safety and security by being resettled in another country.



Durable Solutions

Half of all those refugees will resettle in the U.S.



The 1951 UN Convention

“The 1951 United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees” defines who is a refugee, their rights, and the legal obligations of states - including non-refoulement.



The 1967 Protocol

“The 1967 Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees” broadened how a refugee is defined by removing geographic boundaries and including qualifying events to those occurring since January 1, 1951.



The Refugee Act of 1980

By 1979, the amassing humanitarian atrocities and growing refugee problem in Southeast Asia resulted in drafting the Refugee Act of 1980.



The Refugee Act of 1980



The Refugee Act of 1980 codified the United States' historic policy of aiding individuals fleeing persecution from their homelands.

The Refugee Act of 1980

A refugee is primarily defined as a person who has fled his or her home country and is unable or unwilling to return, owing to persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution based on:

- Race
- Religion
- Nationality
- Membership in a social group
- Political opinion

The Refugee Act of 1980

Besides refugees, other eligible beneficiaries under the Refugee Act are:

- Asylees
- Cuban and Haitian Entrants
- Victims of a Severe Form of Trafficking
- Certain Amerasians
- SLVs from Afghanistan and Iraq
- Others as authorized

The Refugee Act of 1980

The following are not required conditions for admission to the United States as a refugee:

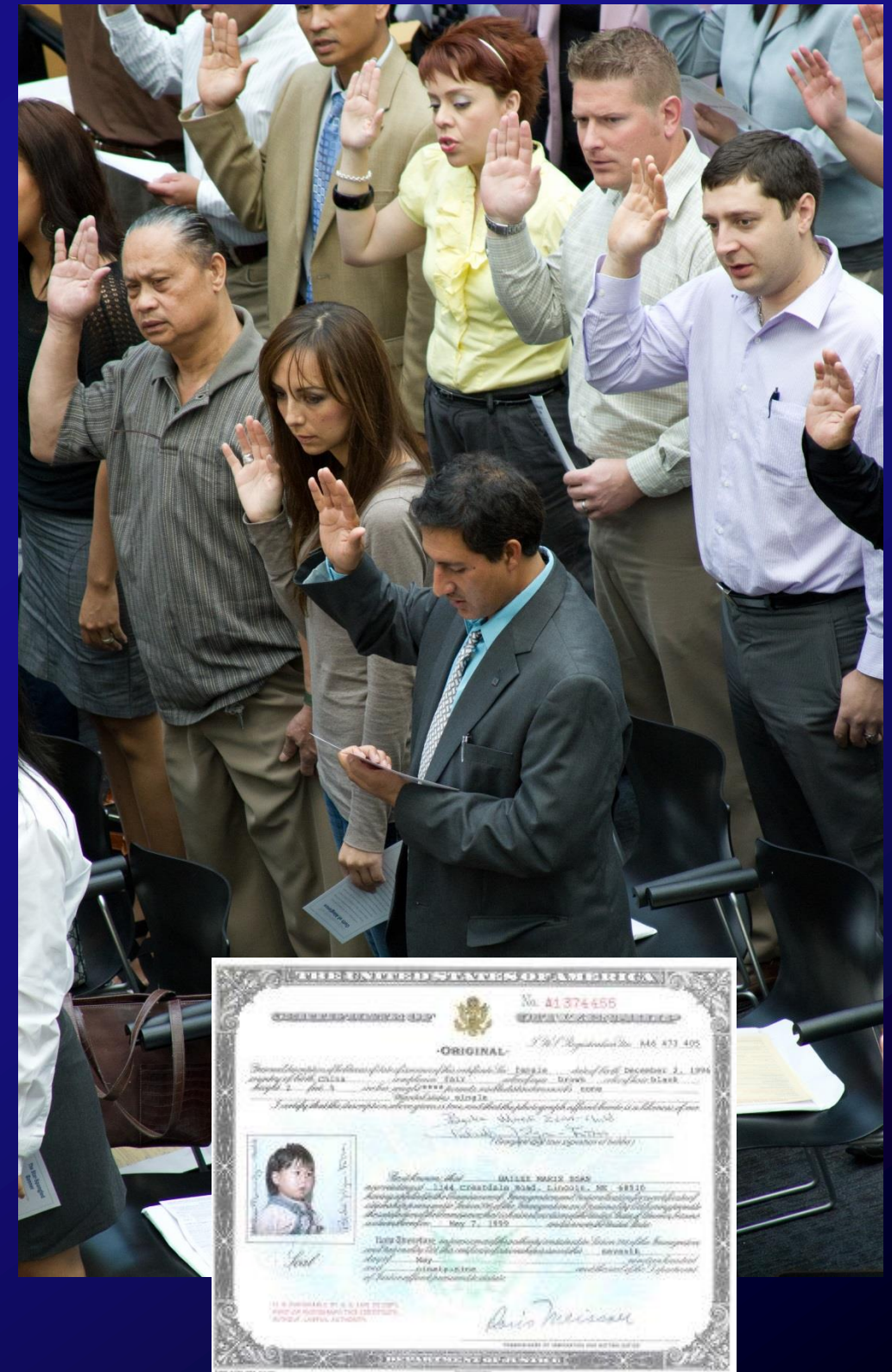
- Demonstrate ability to achieve economic self-sufficiency
- Integration potential



The Refugee Act of 1980

Refugees are afforded the same rights as legal residents in the U.S. and are eligible to:

- Apply for Lawful Permanent Resident Status after twelve months
- Seek naturalization after five years



Key Federal Agencies

Three federal agencies play key roles in the U.S. Refugee Resettlement Program.



U.S. Refugee Status Determination

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has statutory authority to determine which applicants meet the requirements for refugee status and are admissible to the United States under U.S. law.



U.S Refugee Admissions Process

The U.S. Department of State coordinates resettlement policy, overseas processing, cultural orientation, transportation to the U.S., and the Reception & Placement program for newly arrived refugees.



U.S. Domestic Refugee Resettlement

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Refugee Resettlement is responsible for the domestic program of refugee resettlement services - including cash and medical assistance and a broad range of social services.



U.S. Worldwide Processing Priorities

- P-1 Cases identified and referred by UNHCR, a U.S. Embassy, or a designated NGO
- P-2 Groups of special concern identified by the U.S. Department of State
- P-3 Family reunification cases of close relatives

U.S. Refugee Admissions Process

The President annually determines refugee admission levels to the U.S. by world region.

FFY 2017 – 110,000

Africa	35,000
East Asia	12,000
Europe and Central Asia	4,000
Latin America/Caribbean	5,000
Near East/South Asia	40,000
Unallocated Reserve	14,000

U.S. Refugee Resettlement



Until the mid-1990's, at least three-quarters of refugees coming to the U.S. were from the former Soviet Union and Southeast Asia.

U.S. Refugee Resettlement



Since the end of the Cold War the political landscape has changed dramatically.

U.S. Refugee Resettlement

Sporadic internal conflicts, ethnic tensions, and political rivalries have increased globally and arriving refugees reflect those changes.

Syria's Refugee Crisis

Approximately 6.25 million people are displaced inside and outside of Syria. The U.N. says that means more people from Syria are now forcibly displaced than from any other country.

DISPLACED

2 million

Syrians have fled the country

4.25 million

people are displaced inside Syria

5,000

people flee Syria every day

1 million

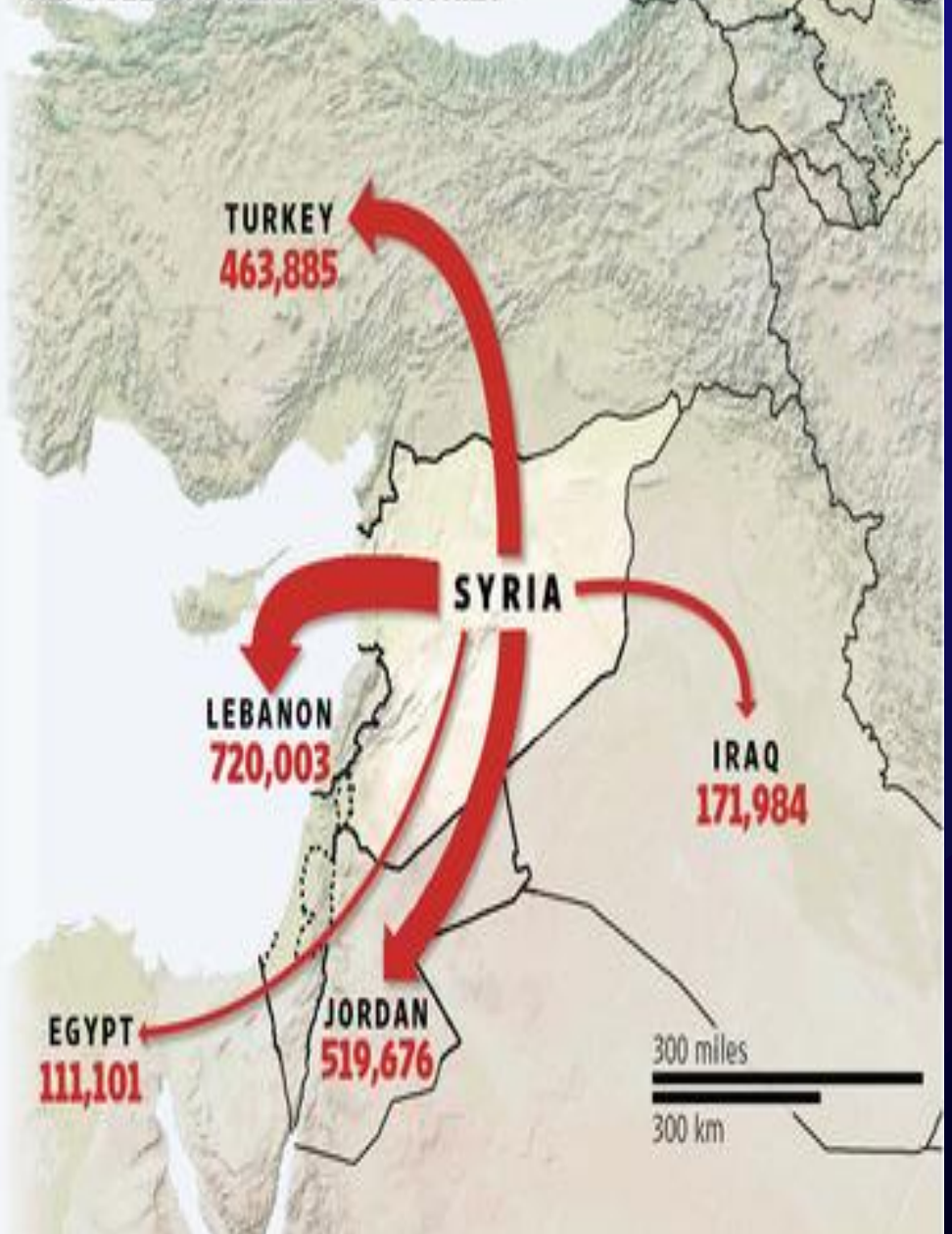
Syrians registered as refugees since the beginning of 2013

*Data as of Sept. 2. Figures include the number of refugees registered or registering with the U.N. Number of Syrians in each country is much higher, in some cases double, according to local officials.

Source: UNHCR

The Wall Street Journal

REFUGEES TO NEARBY COUNTRIES*



Some Primary Countries of Refugees' Origins

Burma



DR Congo



Somalia



Cuba



Iraq



Syria



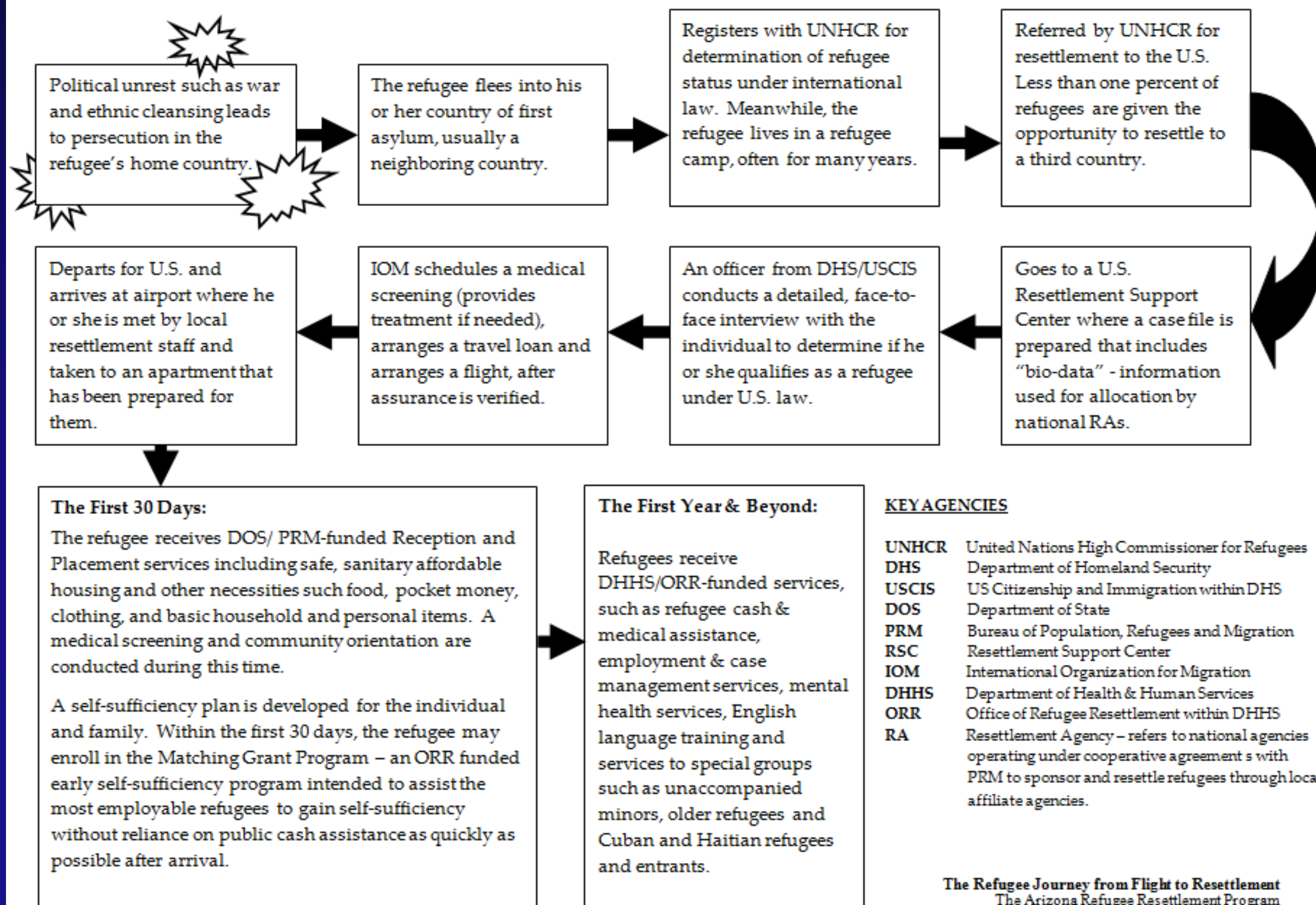
U.S. Refugee Admissions

Refugees undergo a thorough interview, extensive background and security checks, and a medical examination prior to U.S. admission.



U.S. Refugee Admissions

The Refugee Journey from Flight to Resettlement



U.S. Refugee Admissions

The process includes the involvement of:

- The National Counterterrorism Center
- The FBI's Terrorist Screening Center
- The U.S. Department of Homeland Security
- The U.S. Department of Defense
- Other agencies

Most of the details of the security checks are classified.

U.S. Refugee Resettlement

Nine national Resettlement Agencies (RAs) provide *Reception & Placement* (R&P) services to refugees under cooperative agreement with the U.S. Department of State.



U.S. Refugee Resettlement

Six of these national RAs have local refugee resettlement affiliates in Arizona.



Refugees in Arizona

Phoenix Refugee Resettlement Agencies



Catholic Charities Community Services



The International Rescue Committee



Refugee Focus (LSS-SW)



Arizona Immigrant & Refugee Services

Refugees in Arizona

Tucson Refugee Resettlement Agencies



Catholic Community Services



The International Rescue Committee



Refugee Focus (LSS-SW)

Refugees in Arizona

The local Resettlement Agencies welcome refugees upon arrival and provide them essential services during their first 30 days in the U.S. These services link to longer-term services.



U.S. a Place of Miracles for Somali Refugees

By RACHEL L. SWARNS

TUCSON - The white wooden door swung open and the dazed African villagers stepped into their new home. It was a modest apartment

Initial Services

The U.S. Department of State/Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM) R&P funds support refugees with such transitional needs as:

- Housing and essential furnishings
- Food, clothing and pocket money
- Community orientation
- Social/employment service referrals

Initial Services

Refugees receive a domestic medical screening within 30-60 days of arrival in the U.S.



Initial Services

A comprehensive plan is developed to help guide refugee individuals and families towards self-sufficiency - including linkage to longer-term services and support.



Refugees in Arizona

In order for states to receive U.S. Department of Health and Human Services/Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) funds, states must:

- Develop a State Plan
- Identify a State Refugee Coordinator.



Refugees in Arizona

The State Plan reflects the Federal Refugee Resettlement Program purpose, which is to effectively resettle refugees and assist them to achieve economic self-sufficiency as quickly as possible after arrival in the U.S.

Refugees in Arizona

The State Plan provides assurances and delineates how the state will meet the requirements of the Federal Refugee Resettlement Program.



Refugees in Arizona

The State Refugee Coordinator has the responsibility and authority to coordinate public and private resources in refugee resettlement.



Refugees in Arizona

The Arizona Refugee Resettlement Program is the state's refugee program, and administers 100 percent federally funded benefits and services to support refugees' self-sufficiency and successful resettlement.



Refugees in Arizona

State administered refugee resettlement assistance funds must focus on employment-related services, English language training (in non-work hours where possible), and case management services.



Refugees in Arizona

English instruction is required to be offered concurrent, rather than sequential, with employment or other employment-related services.



Transitional Services

Most federal refugee benefits may be provided for up to five years after arrival in the U.S.

Many services must be provided on a priority basis, with first priority given to newly arrived refugees receiving cash assistance.

Refugee Resettlement Services

- Unaccompanied Refugee Minors
- Refugee Cash Assistance
- Refugee Medical Assistance
- Refugee Domestic Medical Examinations
- Refugee Health Promotion

Refugee Resettlement Services

- Employment Services
- Case Management
- English Language Training
- Services to Older Refugees
- Refugee School Support (K-12)
- Cuban/Haitian Refugees and Entrants



Refugee Resettlement Services

- Arizona Refugee Resettlement VISTA Project



Refugee Resettlement Services

RRP also administers Arizona's Non-Emergency
U.S. Repatriation Program.



International
Social Service

United States of America Branch, Inc.

Unaccompanied Refugee Minors Program

Unaccompanied Refugee Minors (URM) are children without a parent or guardian who are identified overseas by the U.S. Department of State as eligible for U.S. resettlement. These children are placed in the ORR-administered URM program (URMP).

Unaccompanied Refugee Minors Program

The Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act extends URMP eligibility to certain special immigrant juveniles (Special Immigrant Juvenile Status) and to unaccompanied minors with U visas.



Unaccompanied Refugee Minors Program

Tailored resettlement and adjustment services help URM's to blend their cultural identity with their new American environment, while pursuing educational goals and preparing for independence.



Unaccompanied Refugee Minors Program

Legal responsibility is established under state law so that URM's have the full range of assistance, care and services as all foster children in the state.



Refugees in Arizona

...since 2005 represent more than 60 languages

Kirundi بهاسا مالايو کشمیری हन् दी
Українська Română af Soomaali
فارسی
தமிழ்
Ўзбек Türkçe العربية Thuɔŋjäŋ كَأَشُر
Shqip भो जपु री Ikinyarwanda
ترکمن Русский
Kreyòl ayisyen Tiếng Việt BOSANSKI Kikongo
Afaan Oromo यत्थी ने पा ली

...and more than 50 countries of origin.

Refugees in Arizona

...and

- Has become home to over 78,000 refugees since 1978.
- Became home to 4,851 refugees during FFY 2016 representing 40 nationalities



FFY 2016 Arrivals Top Five Countries

County	Country	Total	Grand Total
Maricopa	DRC	829	3,007
	Cuba	709	
	Syria	596	
	Somalia	451	
	Iraq	422	
Pima	DRC	393	943
	Syria	224	
	Somalia	170	
	Iraq	97	
	Burundi	59	

FFY 2016 Arrivals

Maricopa	3,953
Pima	<u>1,148</u>
	5,101